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REMARKS

This response is intended as a full and complete response to the final Office Action mailed July 27, 2005.

Claims 1 and 7-33 are pending. Claims 2-6 and 17 are cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of cancelled claims 2-6. Claim 16 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of cancelled claim 17.

Applicants, by amending the claims, do not acquiesce to the Office Action's characterizations of the art of record or to the subject matter recited in the pending claims. Further, Applicants are not acquiescing to the Office Action's statements as to the applicability of the art of record to the pending claims by filing the instant response.

The Office Action objected to claims 6-7 and 17-19 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that they would be allowable if they were rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of cancelled claims 2-6. Claim 16 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of cancelled claim 17. Therefore, claims 1 and 7-33 are allowable.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-5, 8-16, and 20-33 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,268,501 to Schein et al. ("Schein") and U.S. Patent No. 5,768,491 to Lobodzinski et al. ("Lobodzinski").

This rejection is now moot in light of the amendments.

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CONCLUSION

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are allowable. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Eamon J. Wall, Esq. at (732) 530-9404 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: _____

9/21/05

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